

reinforcing the seal sufficiently to withstand pressures generated on heating of the contents of the container;

wherein, the rigid cap includes one of a cam and follower pair engageable in use of the closure with the other of a cam and follower pair on a said container, including a neck, that is closeable by the closure relative movement between the cam and follower in a predetermined direction causing the rigid cap and the container neck to approach one another, thereby increasing the pressure exerted by the resiliently deformable member on the flexible membrane,

the rigid cap further including a laminar member and an annular skirt depending downwardly therefrom, the cam or the follower being secured on the upper wall of the skirt,

and wherein the laminar member is spaced from the flexible membrane by a distance less than the maximum possible extension of the flexible member towards the laminar member.

4. (Twice Amended) A container closure according to any preceding claim shaped to close a container, including a neck having an annular flange for defining part of the said seal, the resiliently deformable member being in use of the closure substantially congruent with the flange whereby the resilient member presses the flexible membrane against the flange.

12. (Thrice Amended) A combination of an open-ended container and container closure therefore comprising:

(i) a pre-stressed flexible membrane for closing the open end of the container;

(ii) a seal disposed to lie, in use of the closure between the flexible membrane and a container;

(iii) a rigid cap having a resiliently deformable member juxtaposed to the flexible membrane in use of the closure, the resiliently deformable member in use

pressing the flexible membrane against the container in the vicinity of the seal, thereby reinforcing the seal sufficiently to withstand pressures generated on heating of the contents of the container;

wherein, the rigid cap includes one of a cam and follower pair engageable in use of the closure with the other of a cam and follower pair on a said container, including a neck, that is closeable by the closure relative movement between the cam and follower in a predetermined direction causing the rigid cap and the container neck to approach one another, thereby increasing the pressure exerted by the resiliently deformable member on the flexible membrane,

the rigid cap further including a laminar member and an annular skirt depending downwardly therefrom, the cam or the follower being secured on the upper wall of the skirt,

and wherein the laminar member is spaced from the flexible membrane by a distance less than the maximum possible extension of the flexible member towards the laminar member, said container being a metal or composite can.

14. (Twice Amended) A method of closing a container with a closure according to Claim 1 comprising the steps of:

(i) adhesively securing a said flexible membrane on the open end of a neck of the container, thereby forming a said seal;

(ii) engaging the cam and follower of a said rigid cap and the container neck with one another; and

(iii) moving the rigid cap and the container neck relative to one another to cause relative movement between the cam and the follower in the predetermined direction, thereby causing the resiliently deformable member to press the flexible membrane against the container in the vicinity of the seal sufficiently to maintain the seal against pressures generated in the container on heating of its contents.